

---

## Preface

---

The WSR-88D radar is a highly complex, computerized radar system. The system includes thousands of adaptable parameters which allow the required operational, geographical, and meteorological flexibility needed to support the varied missions of the three Principal User Agencies.

With over 11,000 adaptable parameters available within the WSR-88D unit, centralized control over many of the system and meteorological parameters is required to ensure a baseline operational standard is met in support of the national radar network. However, many parameters were designed to fine-tune the WSR-88D for local operational needs. Therefore, Federal Meteorological Handbook Number 11 (FMH-11) has defined three Levels of Change Authority (LOCA) for adaptable parameter control. The hierarchy established by these LOCA was defined to ensure that authority for change is based on expertise and scope of impact while still allowing for operational flexibility.

The rapidly changing nature of the WSR-88D program necessitated the publication of an easily updatable, comprehensive document to describe, define, and provide guidance for adaptable parameters under the purview of each LOCA. To address this need, the specific parameters under each LOCA are defined in the WSR-88D Guidance on Adaptable Parameters Handbook series. The authority for the adaptable parameter baseline settings and LOCA defined in this publication series resides in FMH-11.

The WSR-88D Guidance on Adaptable Parameters Handbook series was designed for operational use by field personnel and system managers, and as supplemental materials for agency training developers. To fill this broad design mandate, the adaptable parameters handbook series is divided into three separate volumes: one each for the RPG, PUP, and RDA functional areas. Each volume addresses only those parameters applicable to, and accessible through that specific component of the WSR-88D system. The appropriate screen where the adaptable parameter can be changed is shown. Additionally, for each adaptable parameter, the specific LOCA and any relevant information available is provided. As a baseline document, this handbook should be kept in a location that is easily accessible to operators and system managers. It is recommended that site specific adaptation changes be documented and posted to the appropriate section of this handbook.

---

This page intentionally left blank.